fo•cus (fō´kəs): a center of interest and activity Nov./Dec. 1997

Focus on Morton Grove Public Library

Thank You to Patrons, Volunteers from Library

During the holiday season, the Morton Grove Public Library would like to extend thanks to those who make our job easier. Thank you to our patrons who ask reference questions, attend programs, bring your children to the Library, make suggestions for materials and come in looking for book suggestions. Our gift to you is a Holiday Booktalk of our 1997 favorites on **December 2 at 7:30 p.m.** Come enjoy the reviews and holiday refreshments. Thank you to those who donate money or books to make our collection grow. These donations are often in memory of friends or family members. The books contain a special bookplate noting the giver and the honoree. Next time you are stumped for a gift idea, think about donating a book to the Library in honor of that special person. Thank you to the volunteers who file, help process books, monitor movies, deliver books to Bethany Terrace Nursing Home, and prepare the *Focus* for mailing. This is also the opportunity to introduce our newest Trustee, Eric Robbins, who is a professional librarian and who also has a small-business background. Welcome to the MGPL Board, Mr. Robbins!

From the staff and Board of the Morton Grove Public Library to you, our patrons, Happy Holidays!

Ed and Barb Kutta with friend Skeezix

Variety Show, Holiday Music Coming to Library's Stage

It is hard to resist singing along – and dancing, too – when Barb and Ed Kutta take to the stage with their "Ain't She Sweet" show on **Sunday, November 9 at 2 p.m.** The Kuttas sing, dance, and tell stories and jokes for an entertaining afternoon.

Their variety show features songs from the 1920s through the 1960s in a toe-tapping, hand-clapping style that makes everyone take a trip down memory lane.

Their first visit to MGPL on a bitterly cold day in January 1997 warmed the Baxter Room considerably. Audience members waved international "flags" for one song and each person left with a memento from the Kuttas.

In December, celebrate the season with a concert of flute music on **Sunday, December 7 at 2 p.m.** Ten flutists with Lakeside Flutes will perform Christmas and Hanukkah pieces by Mozart and Bach, Handel's *Royal Fireworks,* and others.

Volunteers Needed for MGPL International Festival in April

The Library is throwing an International Festival to celebrate the many cultures of people who live and work in Morton Grove! Save **Saturday, April 25** for this gala event.

Do you have a special talent to share? Do you belong to a group of ethnic singers or dancers who would like to entertain? Can you tell stories in another language? Maybe you have items to loan for the Library's display cases.

The Library is looking for plenty of volunteers to make this a truly international event. If you can participate in any way, call the Library at (847) 965-4220 and ask for Kate Johnston-Legg.

Check Here for Holiday Hours

Please note the following special hours over the holidays.
Wednesday, November 26: Open 9 – 9 (no change)

Thursday, November 27: Closed for Thanksgiving

Friday, November 28: Open 9 – 6 (no change)

Friday, December 5: Closed for Staff Development Day

Wednesday, December 24: Closed for Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 25: Closed for Christmas

Wednesday, December 31: Open 9 - 5 (no evening hours)

Thursday, January 1 Closed for New Year's Day

MGPL Hours

Mon.-Thurs. 9 - 9
Fri. 9 - 6, Sat. 9 - 5
Sun. (Sept.-May) 1 - 5

Mark your calendar!

Calendar Summary

November			
11/4	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies
11/5	We	7:00	Slide/Lecture: *London's Less Traveled Treasures*
11/9	Su	2:00	Concert: *Ain't She Sweet*
11/10	Mo	11:00, 2:30 & 7:00	Feature Film: *Contact* (PG 150 min)
11/11	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies
11/13	Th	7:45	Library Board Meeting
11/16	Su	2:00	Lyric Opera Lecture: *Amistad*
11/18	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies
11/18	Tu	7:30	Book Discussion Group: *A Civil Action* by Jonathan Harr
11/20	Th		Family Reading Night
11/22	Sa	2:30	Children's Program: *The Magic Onion*
11/25	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies
11/27	Th		Library Closed for Thanksgiving
December			
12/2	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies
12/2	Tu	7:00	Holiday Booktalk
12/5	Fr		Library Closed for Staff Development Day
12/7	Su	2:00	Concert: *Lakeside Flutes*
12/9	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies
12/11	Th	7:45	Library Board Meeting
12/15	Mo	11:00 2:30 & 7:00	Feature Film: *Ulee's Gold* (R - 111 min.)
12/16	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies
12/23	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies
12/24	We		Library Closed
12/25	Th		Library Closed for Christmas
12/30	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies
12/31	We		Library Closes at 5 p.m.

Check our complete calendar on the Web at *http://www.webrary.org/mgpl/calcurr.html*

Programs

November

London's Less Traveled Treasures – Let experienced tour guide and Anglophile Linda Putnam show you the less publicized, but no less interesting sites of London. Travel back in time to the fog-enshrouded Inns of Court and snoop around the cramped and dusty Old Hall of Lincoln's Inn. Discover other churches designed by Christopher Wren (besides St. Paul's Cathedral), historic pubs, an ancient market site and more in this slide show journey. **Wed. 11/5 7:00.**

Concert: Ain't She Sweet – Barb and Ed Kutta perform their variety show. See page one for details. **Sun. 11/9 at 2:00.**

Lyric Opera Lecture – Ruth Zuckerman discusses Anthony Davis' *Amistad.* **Sun. 11/16 at 2:00.**

December

Holiday Booktalk - This book chat is a gift from the Library to you! Looking for the perfect gift for a special friend? Get some terrific ideas from the best books of 1997 and enjoy homemade holiday treats. **Tues. 12/2 at 7:30 p.m.**

Concert: Lakeside Flutes - A flute ensemble plays holiday pieces and classical favorites. See page one for details. **Sun. Dec. 7 at 2 p.m.**

Coming in 1998: Beginning Internet class on Thursday, January 8 at 7:30 p.m. This class is open to Morton Grove residents only. Priority has been given to the long waiting list from the October class. Open registration begins **Monday, November 10** for remaining spaces. Call the Reader's Service Desk to register.

Lunch Time Movies

Pack a brown-bag lunch and head to the Library every **Tuesday at 11:30 a.m.** for Lunch Time Movies. Travel to faraway places, listen to thought-provoking discussions or meet historical figures during this 1½ hour video program.

Book Discussion Group

Thinking Out Loud, the Library's book group, meets **November 18 at 7:30 p.m.** to discuss *A Civil Action* by Jonathan Harr. Thinking Out Loud will not meet in December, but be sure to come to the Holiday Booktalk on **Tuesday, December 2 at 7:00**.

All programs held at the Library are free of charge and open to everyone, unless noted. For more information, or for mobility and communication access assistance, please call the Library at (847) 965-4220, TDD 965-4236.

Kids Programs

Explore Non-Fiction, Earn Book Bucks to Spend in Reading Game

The Children's Department school-year reading game has begun! It is not too late to start reading non-fiction books for "Explore the 'Numbers!'"

As you read books, you will earn "book bucks" redeemable toward prizes at the Library Store. You could take home pencils, stickers, rings, erasers and other fun stuff.

Three special programs are planned for the year. The Puppet Place presents the first program, *The Magic Onion*, on **Saturday, November 22 at 2 p.m.**

Take a beautiful princess and her faithful dog, a wicked magician and his magic onion, a handsome prince, a hungry dragon, and a castle in an enchanted blue forest, and there's a fairy tale. That is only the beginning of the story. Come to the program to see the hilarious fairy tale that results.

Other programs are planned for **Saturday, February 14 and Saturday, April 4**, so mark your calendar now. At each event, each student enrolled in the reading game will have a chance for a $20 gift certificate to a toy or book store. So start "Exploring the 'Numbers'" now at the Library.

Book Time With Kids For Children's Book Week

Stop by the Children's Department during **National Children's Book Week (November 17 - 23)** to tell us what your favorite book is and your favorite time to read. Then go home with a "Read Together, Grow Together" bookmark and sticker. Parents can pick up an "Anytime Is Book Time" tip sheet.

Between after-school activities and homework, it can be tough to fit in time for reading "just for fun." Here are a few of our favorite ideas for making reading fun at home:

• Make a recipe from your child's favorite book – try Stone Soup or even Green Eggs and Ham!

• Help your child write a letter to his favorite author. The authors take these letters seriously and many take the time to answer their letters.

•Join thousands of others across the state for **Family Reading Night on Thursday, November 20.** Your child can make a "No TV tonight, just books please!" sign to remind all family members. (Save it for future use!)

• Bedtime lights out can be 30 minutes later if your children elect to read for that time. (Make sure they have a good light source and plenty of library books near the bed.)

Children's Classes

Winter session begins the week of **January 5, 1998.** Enrollment is limited. Morton Grove children whose names are on a waiting list will be given priority placement in the following session. Open enrollment begins **December 15 for MG residents, December 22 for non-residents.** Walk-in registration begins at 9:00 a.m. Phone registration will be taken after 9:30 a.m.

Library Playtime for 2 1/2 Year Olds & Parents
Thursday 10:30 am
Class limit – 12 children, 12 parents

Pre-School Storytime
Please choose one of the following times for ages 3-Kindergarten:
Wednesday 10:00 am
Thursday 6:45 pm
Class limit – 30

Stories & Stuff
Grades 1-2
Monday 7:00pm
Class limit – 12

Arts & Crafts
Grades 1-3 Mon. 4:00 pm
Grades 4-6 Fri. 4:00 pm
Class limit – 15

Creative Writing
Please choose one of the following:
Grades 2-6
Wed. or Thurs. 4:00 pm
Class limit - 40

MATCHBOOK delivers list of newest Library materials

More patrons are signing up for the newest service at the Morton Grove Public Library: MATCHBOOK. Let the Library create a personalized monthly list of new materials tailored to your special interests. It is easy to sign up; just stop at the Reader's Service Desk and check off the categories that interest you on the patron profile.

Every month you will receive a list of the materials (books, CDs, audiobooks, cassettes , large print, and videos) that matches your profile, along with reviews of books. Young adult books and graphic novels are also included in MATCHBOOK along with 18 categories of fiction. Let us know your favorite authors and MATCHBOOK will notify you when their newest books are ready.

Films

November

Contact (PG 150 min) Based on a Carl Sagan novel, *Contact* is the search for the perfect representative of earth to send to an alien society. Just when her funding is about to run out, radio astronomer Ellie Arroway (Jodie Foster) hears a signal from space, 26 light years away. When the signal is decoded, it reveals blueprints for a massive space vehicle.
Mon. 11/10 11:00, 2:30 & 7:00

December

Ulee's Gold (R 111 min) Ulee Jackson (Peter Fonda) is a Vietnam vet just trying to hold together a splintering family. His wife has died, his son Jimmy (Tom Wood) is in jail for robbing a bank and his daughter-in-law (Christine Dunford) is on drugs. Ulee takes care of his two grandchildren, but risks his own life when Jimmy's associates come looking for money from the bank heist.
Mon. 12/15 11:00, 2:30 & 7:00

Try a CD-ROM Before Gift-Giving Season

Coming up with gift ideas can be tough, but maybe a CD-ROM is the answer for several of the people on your list. A toddler would love to learn the ABCs with Big Bird and the Sesame Street gang in **Letters.** In **Big Anthony's Mixed-Up Magic,** kids can find Strega Nona's hidden ingredients or find the opera singer's lost voice.

Students will appreciate how easy **Compton's Encyclopedia of American History** will make their reports. Help that college-bound grandson or daughter with **Your Personal Trainer for the ACT.** Giving Mom the **Garden Encyclopedia** will help her look forward to spring planting, while Dad would love the **Rand McNally TripMaker.**

Grandparents will enjoy the beauty of **North American Birds** or travelling with **Smithsonian's America.**

With a collection of more than 200 CD-ROMs, the Library is the place to look for great gift ideas. Browse the collection located on the rack next to the Circulation Desk. Then take a few home to try. They circulate for two weeks.

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Reference Round-up

Your daughter received a ticket from the state police for a traffic violation. A neighbor is building a fence that seems to be encroaching on your property line. You need an employment contract form in order to hire a nanny for your toddler. Situations like these often bring patrons to the Reference Department for information on legal issues.

The complete set of the *Illinois Compiled Statutes*, which is continually updated, is available for answering questions about current Illinois law, including those vexing highway traffic tickets! Property line regulations are found in our local ordinances set forth in the *Village Code of Morton Grove, Illinois.*

The Library has several books of legal forms for everyday use: *The Complete Book of Personal Legal Forms, The Complete Book of Small Business Legal Forms,* and the continually updated *Basic Legal Forms with Commentary.* The forms in these books can be used as a model or photocopied for personal use.

When more general information is needed, a new 3-volume legal encyclopedia, *Ready Reference: American Justice,* can give quick information on legal issues from the meaning of "voir dire" to the federal raid on the Branch Davidians.

Finally, to make a career in law *Barron's Guide to Law Schools* describes all ABA-approved schools and includes a sample LSAT with answers and explanations.

The Reference librarians are always available to direct you through the maze of legalese. Just ask at the Reference Desk for assistance.

Focus is published five times a year by the Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, IL 60053-2989. It is sent free of charge to all Morton Grove residents. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, but don't live in Morton Grove, leave your name and address at the Reader's Service Desk.

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Vol. 21, no. 3

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